

EDMONTON HUNDRED HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1936 to promote and foster interest in local history in
Edmonton Enfield Potters Bar Southgate South Mimms Tottenham Wood Green Monken Hadley



June 2023

Newsletter

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday 21st June**
8pm at Jubilee Hall, 2 Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ

The Friern Hospital Story

by David Berguer

The Second Middlesex County Pauper Lunatic Asylum (known to many as Colney Hatch) opened in 1851. The largest asylum in Europe (and with Europe's longest corridor), it had at its height 2,500 or more patients. This talk by David Berguer, author of *The Friern Hospital Story*, covers the history of the building and the treatment offered to patients, until after 142 years it was closed, as a result of the government's Care in the Community plan, in 1993.

Rachael Macdonald



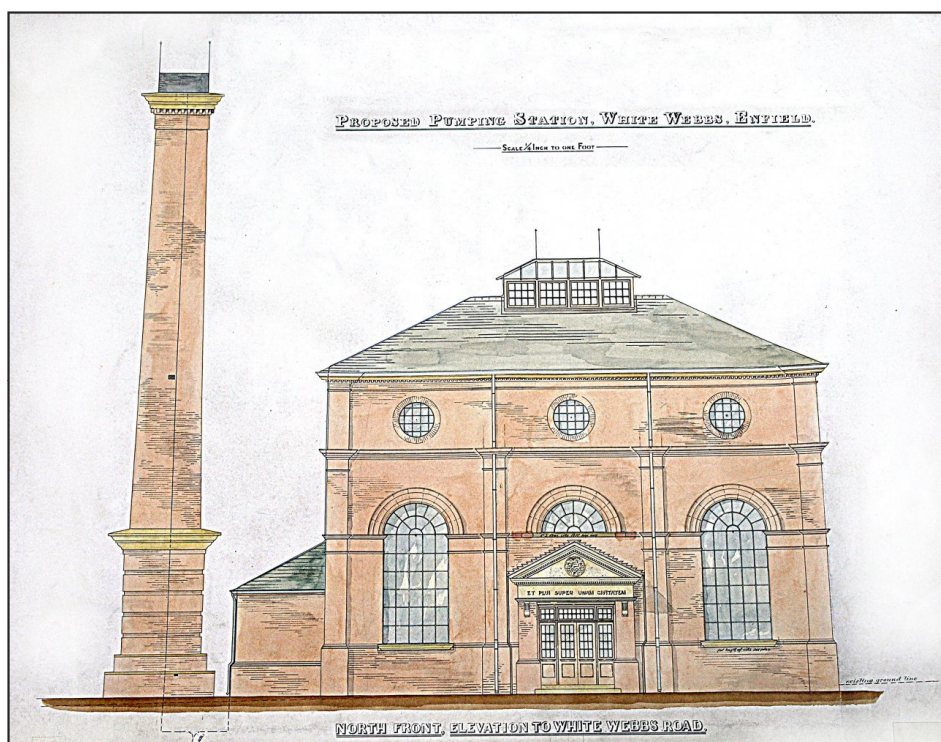
Photo: Creative Commons

Friern Hospital now called Princess Park Manor

Visit to Whitewebbs Museum of Transport Tuesday 27 June at 11.30am

The visit mentioned in our last Newsletter has been confirmed, and some members have already reserved places. Here are all the details you need in order to book, to decide on transport, and to find the museum. The links will take you to a relevant web page if you receive your newsletter by email. For those who receive it by post, please ring me with any queries on the telephone number shown.

The museum is housed in a former pumping station built for the New River Water Company in 1898, and we shall be able to see the original well and valve which ensured the New River was topped up in dry weather. There is extensive exhibition space both inside and out. I am always surprised to find members who have not yet visited this interesting venue run by dedicated volunteers. Even if you have been there in the past you will find many changes have taken place in recent years. All types of transport are included, albeit some in miniature, including a model railway inside an old railway carriage. Staff are very knowledgeable and helpful. We will be guided by our committee member Chris Whippe, a trustee of the Enfield District Veteran Vehicle Society who run the museum, and whose talks to our members have included a recent one on the Enfield Fire Brigade. We shall meet in the museum from 11.30am and start our tour at 11.45am.



Whitewebbs Pumping Station Plan 1898

The link below is to printer-friendly a map showing you the way to the museum:

[https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map/prf?x=531425&y=199829&z=110&sv=531425,199829&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=map\[FS\]prf&searchp=ids&dn=749&ax=531925&ay=199829](https://www.streetmap.co.uk/map/prf?x=531425&y=199829&z=110&sv=531425,199829&st=4&ar=Y&mapp=map[FS]prf&searchp=ids&dn=749&ax=531925&ay=199829)

This link will give you the history of the museum if you wish to read it before your visit:

<https://www.whitewebbsmuseum.co.uk/history>

The museum is in Whitewebbs Road, Enfield EN2 9HW and is easily accessed from the M25, Junction 25. Car parking is free on site.

The nearest railway station is Crews Hill, 10 minutes' walk away. Turn right out of station, left on to Cattlegate Road, down the hill past the Plough pub. Follow road round to right, turn left on to Whitewebbs Road, and the Museum is 300 yds on your right.

There is a train at 11.12am from Enfield Chase arriving at Crews Hill at 11.17am, giving you time for the 10-minute walk to the museum. The link below shows train times from all stations from Alexandra Palace to Crews Hill. Departures are 'live' so clicking the link an hour before you leave will show if trains are running on time:

<https://m.nationalrail.co.uk/pj/ldbboard/dep/AAP/CWH/TO>

By Bus - catch the 456 from eg Enfield Chase Station (War Memorial) at 10.55am (direction Forty Hall), alight at Rosewood Drive, turn left on to Theobalds Park Road, right on to Whitewebbs Road and the Museum is 300 yds on your right. The link below shows all stops on this rather circuitous route, but the journey from Enfield Chase to Rosewood Drive is only 16 minutes. If you forget to get off at Rosewood Drive then you will need to walk from Crews Hill Railway Station.

<https://tfl.gov.uk/bus/timetable/456?fromId=490001099CC&intervalId=0&selectedDate=mondaytofriday>

Our tour will take approximately 1 hour. The museum is open till 4pm so you may wish to explore some more on your own. Please consider patronising the museum Cafe (open from 10am -2pm), serving hot and cold drinks, snacks and cakes, a friendly atmosphere for a light lunch before you leave, as it helps to keep the museum open.

The visit costs £10 and you may book by post or in person at our next talk on 21 June, when I shall bring some printouts for those unable to read the links.

Cheques to be made payable to Edmonton Hundred Historical Society and sent to EHHS Events, 13A Palmerston Road, Bowes Park N22 8QH. Call or text me on 0734 1212 813 with any enquiries.

Rachael Macdonald

Diary Dates - talks and events arranged by other organisations

Tuesday 13th June. 2-4 pm. Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NU. Reminiscence Café. Handmade. Working with Textiles. Fabric from Ward's or Liberty's, yarns from the local wool shop. Have you got any examples of something you, or a friend or family member, made that you still treasure? Or perhaps some pictures? *Bruce Castle Museum*

Monday 19th June. 8pm. Jubilee Hall, Parsonage Lane, Enfield, EN2 0AJ
The Mercenary River. Nick Higham.
£1 charge for visitors *The Enfield Society*

Thursday 22nd June. 7-8.30 pm. Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NU
Windrush at 75: At Home with the Mckenzie's – an evening in conversation.
Free. **Book** via **Eventbrite.** *Bruce Castle Museum*

Saturday 24th June. Walk. Meet 10.30 and 2pm. Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, N17
Windrush 75 Walking Tour of 400 years of Black history in Tottenham
Avril Nanton. Free. **Book** via **Eventbrite.** *Bruce Castle Museum*

Bruce Castle Museum - New Exhibition

Inspired by...George Shadbolt: Victorian Photographer, Writer & Innovator

Coleraine Gallery, Bruce Castle Museum, Lordship Lane, Tottenham, N17 8NU,
7th June to 1st October

Pioneering photographer George Shadbolt (1819-1901) took some of the earliest photographs of London during the 1850s-60s. Bruce Castle has an exquisite archive of these early prints showing the quiet rural landscapes of Highgate, Hornsey and Tottenham. The collection represents one of the most significant assemblages of his work in this country. His work can also be seen at the Museum of London, The British Library, The Getty and Metropolitan Museum of Art in the US.

British Association for Local History newsletter award

We are pleased and proud to be able to tell you that the Edmonton Hundred Historical Society has won the BALH's annual newsletter award. The official announcement was made at their virtual AGM in May. This was recorded and can be found on their website via the following link

<https://www.balh.org.uk/news-annual-general-meeting-recording-2023-05-19>.

The citation is reproduced below.

The Edmonton Hundred Historical Society was founded in 1936 to promote and foster interest in local history in the settlements in that ancient hundred, that is, Edmonton, Enfield, Potters Bar, Southgate, South Mimms, Tottenham, Wood Green, and Monken Hadley. Edmonton Hundred lay west of the river Lea in the north-east corner of Middlesex, with South Mimms, Monken Hadley, and part of Enfield projecting westward into Hertfordshire. From the later nineteenth century those places were transferred piecemeal to that county, but the society does not recognise any county boundaries.

The EHHS's monthly newsletter comprises 8 A4 pages packed with news, information and articles. It opens with details of the society's next meeting and any upcoming visits. 'Diary dates' very helpfully gives information about various events and talks arranged by other local organisations and also any updates from the Bruce Castle Museum and Archive. The newsletter clearly generates interest because there are often letters or emails from readers commenting on items in previous issues. The regular series '100 years ago in Edmonton Hundred' comprises local newspaper articles (and illustrations where available) from a century ago thus charting change and 'progress' in the area – such as the 237 journeys by Enfield's 'motor ambulance' between September 1921 and March 1922. There is usually one longer article on a local topic such as that by Ian Jones, entitled 'Five brothers and a palace', about Enfield Palace. Alternatively, personal reminiscences of the area may be recorded.

This lively newsletter keeps members informed about the past and the present in an engaging way.

Dr Heather Falvey, Reviews Editor, *The Local Historian*

Letters and Emails

Memories are Made of This – Stuart Delvin

Stuart Delvin has written to say how much he enjoyed the talk last month by Pat and Barbara Elliott. Though there were a few things he thought they had left out perhaps, he says, because they didn't have a brother.

He remembers the American westerns that were popular with children; Hopalong Cassidy, The Cisco Kid, The Lone Ranger, Rin Tin Tin, Wagon Train, Laramie, Maverick, Rawhide, Hawkeye, and Wells Fargo, which spurred boys on to purchase the six guns that took caps - for playing with out of school. The American Influence also led to him getting Union and Confederate toy soldiers one Christmas. Toy soldiers in general were popular.

Radio was still important in the 1950s and every Sunday lunchtime he remembers listening to Two Way Family Favourites, featuring service men's record requests from the British Army in Germany. The lunchtime also featured The Billy Cotton Band Show and the comedy programmes Life with the Lyons, featuring Bebe Daniels and Ben Lyons, and Ray's a Laugh. This starred Ted Ray and featured Kitty Bluet. Ted lived in Winchmore Hill, up on Broad Walk.



Photo in the public domain

The Lone Ranger

In 1958 his father started taking him to Spurs and Arsenal on alternate weeks. There was no bad behaviour then, and no animosity between supporters. Those were the days of the old wooden rattles and rosettes. A flimsy programme at Spurs was 2d (1p), the far superior Arsenal programme cost 6d. Children would buy little different coloured badges, with black and white photos of the top players of the day, to pin on their lapels. Regardless of what club you supported, you would still expect to buy badges with pictures of Johnny Haynes, Bobby Charlton, Ron Springett, etc .

Sarcasm Will Get You Nowhere – Ian Jones

More Snippets (or as he calls them "distractions") from Ian Jones's research

"Sparks from the Anvil."

"Unity is strength," as a small boy was heard to say the other night, when he saw one officer and one sergeant drilling three rank and file of the gallant Enfield Volunteers in the Market Square. The Officer in charge stopped just in time as he was about to utter the command, "Form fours." Problem in the rule of three. One volunteer is worth three pressed men. Query: How many are three worth?

Meyers Observer 22nd March 1884

FCA responded;

Sir,- Will you kindly allow me space for the following: In the Observer of last week "Sparks from the Anvil," has seen fit to try to be a little sarcastic on the Enfield Volunteers. He states that he saw one officer and one sergeant drilling three rank and file in the market square and that the officer stopped just in time as he was about to give the command "Form fours," he also gives a problem to be solved as to what three volunteers are worth. The fact of the matter is the officer was examining four "privates" for promotion and each one was called out in turn to drill the other three. I am sorry "Sparks from the Anvil" cannot *occupy his time better than in trying to ridicule men* who sacrifice a good deal of their time and practice much self-denial by belonging to what every sensible thinking man believes to be the grandest organisation in the world and which has prevented in this country what would be very distasteful to every Englishman-*Conscription*—Yours F.C.A.

Meyers Observer 29th March 1884

One Hundred Years Ago

Graham Frost has found a report on the opening of the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls Hut for his One Hundred Years Ago feature. Members will know that the CAWG hut is next door neighbour to Jubilee Hall and was, we assume, erected around about the same time.

Both huts were ex First World War army huts, thousands of which were disposed of from sites across the country including the Royal Small Arms Factory where David Pam records the drastic reduction in production and the wholesale lay off of workers following the Armistice.

Some of the huts had been used in France and adverts for the sale of timber and building materials appeared in the Times from 1919. However, so far I have been unable to establish precisely where either the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls' or the Jubilee Hall hut came from.

Kate Godfrey

A Meeting Place for Enfield Women

Mission Work in Enfield - C.A.W.G. Hut Opened.

The official opening and dedication service of the Christian Alliance of Women and Girls Hut, erected at Parsonage Lane, Chase Side, Enfield, took place on Saturday afternoon. There was a large attendance, and the service was conducted by Miss Williamson, assisted by the Rev. Ebenezer Rees (Christ Church), Rev. Geo. Lunn (vicar of Christ Church, Surbiton). The speakers were Miss Dashwood (president of the Alliance), the Chairman (Miss Williamson), Rev. Geo. Lunn, Rev. Ebenezer Rees, and others. Two solos were beautifully sung by Miss D. Press.

An Offer of £500

Miss Williamson, in a brief address, said they had been looking forward to that day for a long time; it had come, and they thanked God it was a beautiful day. She extended a welcome to those present and to the friends who had helped in the preliminary preparations. The Hut was built to meet the needs of the girls who had nowhere particular to go. The churches, she said, were doing great work, but it seemed that something quite denominational was needed. Two girls present that afternoon were the nucleus of that effort. For two winters they had had a room at the British Hall, provided by Christ Church, to whom they were greatly indebted. They had hardly anything to pay,



Enfield Gazette 29th June 1923

The newly erected hut

and it meant so much to be free of expense. The idea of building a Hut had always been before the committee, and when a gentleman came forward and offered an anonymous gift of £500, they were not slow to accept the offer. They had forty senior members and twelve intermediates, whose ages ranged from 12 to 15. With the new premises they looked forward to doing much more for members, and perhaps next year they would be able to take part in the annual C.A.W.G. drill display. Miss Williamson expressed the committee's thanks to all those who had come forward and helped towards the extra needs. To provide for the girls, they would need practical

support and sympathy; and the Chairman mentioned that the annual expense would be between £50 and £60. She appealed for subscribers at 5s. per annum.

A dedicatory prayer was offered by the Rev. George Lunn. This was followed by a splendid address by Miss Dashwood (president of the Alliance), who broadly and lucidly outlined the aims and objects of the Alliance. She also mentioned that the national membership was 15,000, and they were only beginning the third year of its formation.



© Enfield Local Studies & Archive

The opening of the Christian Alliance of Women & Girls Hut

Sale of Work.

To add to the Hut funds, a sale of work was held on Tuesday afternoon, which was opened by Mrs Philip Smith. The chair was taken by Mr. A. Bath, J.P. In a brief address, he referred to the excellent building that had been erected, and said there was a possibility of great work before the Alliance.

The movement would make people realise that they could not live for self alone, for they had a great duty to carry on in the outside world. They lived in an unhappy world, and all around there were signs of unemployment, distress, overcrowding, a great shortage of houses, and it all came through selfishness. It was when everyone began to realise that they could not go into the world for self alone, that they would have a better, brighter and happier world. At a carnival he attended the previous Saturday a speaker said that he believed grown-up people to a large extent were selfish, and he was going to do what he could to teach the little people to think of others and to work in a Samaritan spirit.

Two delightful recitations, "The West Wind" and "The Fancy," were given by Miss K. Witton, the latter being given in response to an encore. Mrs Philip Smith then formally declared the sale of work open.

Evening Concert

The opening events covering the three days concluded with a concert on Tuesday evening, presided over by Mr H. D. Vincent, with a closing address by the Rev. George Neatby (vicar of St. John's, Highbury). An excellent musical programme was contributed to by Miss Barnes, pianoforte solos; Mrs Rees, Miss K. Meech (songs); Miss Fowler, recitations; Mrs Toms, violin solo and choruses by the girl members. The accompanist was Mrs. F. C. Chaplin

Enfield Gazette and Observer 29th June 1923
Graham Frost

Books

Hornsey Historical Society Bulletin 64

Hornsey Historical Society's latest bulletin is another collection of fascinating, well researched and well referenced articles, covering the racecourse in Alexandra Park, early film making in North London, the Corporation of Stroud Green, the New River, early maps of Highgate, the Stationers School and suburban development in Hornsey, plus reviews of two new books.

All illustrated and beautifully produced.

ISSN 0955 8071

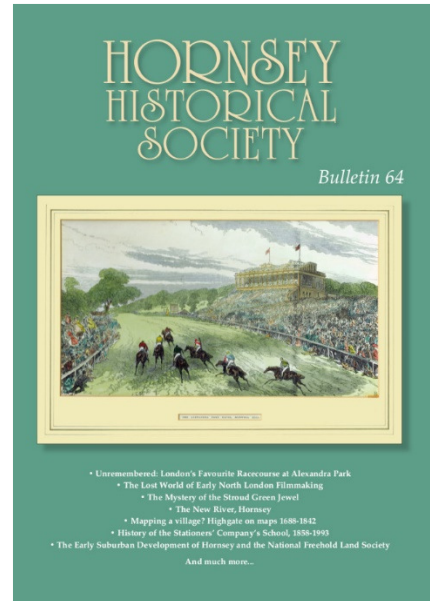
£.7.50 + p&p

The Bulletin is free to Hornsey Historical Society members but is also available online via the Society's website

www.hornseyhistorical.org.uk

Free pick up is also available – details on ordering.

Hornsey Historical Society, the Old School House, 136 Tottenham Lane, London N8 7EL



Tottenham-Summerhill Road Website

Lots of new articles have been added including the West Green Road murder in 1913, Coronation Memories 1953, and updates on the Lea Valley Sailing Club, on the River Lea and Philip Lane.

Home page at <http://tottenham-summerhillroad.com/index.htm>

What's new can be found at <http://tottenham-summerhillroad.com/whatsnew.htm>

One Hundred Years Ago

The New 'Bus Service

Judging by appearances, there is every reason to believe that the new local 'bus service provided by the Redburn Motor Service from Waltham Cross to the Elephant and Castle is indeed supplying a public need. From the firm's point of view there is evidence that they are satisfied with what has been achieved, inasmuch as they contemplate adding considerably to their fleet in the near future. The 'buses contain all the latest improvements, and in every respect are right up to date. The builders are Messrs. Straker Squire, of Edmonton, which means that the launching of the service is providing employment for the many men engaged in construction and in maintaining the service

Enfield Gazette 1st June 1923

Enfield Public Library

Readers are reminded that all books must be returned to the central and branch libraries on or before Saturday, 30th June, for the purpose of the annual stocktaking; otherwise a fine of one shilling will be incurred.

Enfield Gazette 22nd June 1923

Graham Frost

Registered Charity No. 299073.

Please send contributions to the newsletter to Kate Godfrey, 69 Margaret Road, New Barnet.

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